FM Slots to Private Parties

3014. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH SURYA:
SHRI K.M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether opening of more FM slots to private parties will fetch Government Rs. 2,500 crore in a year;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the steps to be taken in this regard;

(c) whether Government propose to take action on certain suggestions offered in news media for growth of this increasingly popular medium; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) In case more FM slots are offered to private parties, Prasar Bharati can generate more revenue. However, no estimate has been done regarding revenue that may be fetched by such allotment of FM slots. Prasar Bharati has already floated tender to fetch more revenue on the highest bid principle. However, the opening of the tender has not been possible due to Court and MRTP cases filed by private operators.

(c) This was sought to be established through Broadcasting Bill, which lapsed due to dissolution of Lok Sabha in 1997.

(d) Does not arise.

दूरदर्शन धारावाहिकों संबंधी नीति

3015. **श्री रामगोपाल यादव:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दूरदर्शन पर धारावाहिकों को दिखाने, उनकी अवधि-विस्तार तथा उन्हें बंद करने के संबंध में सरकार की नई नीतियां और कार्य-योजना क्या हैं;

(ख) क्या इन नीतियों का विधिवत् पालन किया जाता है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो धारावाहिक जय हनुमान का प्रसारण अचानक बीच में ही रोके जाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) क्या सरकार पुनः उसे दूरदर्शन पर दिखाने का आदेश देगी?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज): (क) से (घ) दूरदर्शन पर धारावाहिकों के प्रसारण से संबंधित मामले पूर्ण रूप से प्रसार भारती के अधिकार क्षेत्र में हैं और इनके बारे में सरकार द्वारा निर्णय नहीं लिया जाता है।

निजी चैनलों हेतु कार्यरत दूरदर्शन कर्मचारी

3016. **श्री अखिलेश दास:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि दूरदर्शन के कर्मचारी दूरदर्शन के अलावा निजी चैनलों के साथ अवैध रूप से अनुबंध आधार पर कार्यरत हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में कोई जांच करायी गयी है, यदि हां, तो इसके क्या परिणाम निकले;

(ग) क्या कुछेक मामलों में, वे सरकारी सेवा के दौरान ही निजी चैनलों के लिए कार्य कर रहे हैं; और

(घ) क्या सरकार ने दूरदर्शन के सभी कर्मचारियों के लिए एक ही केन्द्र में तैनाती के लिए कोई निर्धारित नीति बनाई है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

(घ) जी, नहीं। ऐसी नीतियां अब प्रसार भारती द्वारा तय की जाती हैं।

Parliament Committee to Supervise Working of Prasar Bharati Board

3017. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 22 member committee of Parliament is being revived to supervise the working of Prasar Bharati Board;

(b) if so, how does this step fit into the autonomy of Doordarshan and Akashwani; and

(c) whether there is also a move to expand the Prasar Bharati Board?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) The Government have already introduced an Amendment Bill in the Lok Sabha for restoring the provisions of the original Prasar Bharati (Broadcasting Corporation of India) Act, 1990. This inter-alia includes a Parliamentary Committee to oversee the functions of the Corporation as per the original Act.

(b) The Prasar Bharati will exercise autonomy in its functioning within the ambit of the Prasar Bharati Act.

(c) No, Sir.

Policy regarding Telecast of Violent/ Vulgar Programmes

3018. SHRI SITARAM KESRI:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether cheap sex, violence and vulgar programmes are being exhibited by different TV channels having very adverse impact on the viewers, particularly the youth and the children;

(b) whether Government propose to review its whole policy with regard to the telecasting of programmes with a view to screen the programmes tending to have bad influence on the viewers; and

(c) if so, the details of the steps taken/ proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) As of now, Prasar Bharati (Doordarshan) previews all its programmes before they are telecast to ensure that they do not contain any excessive violence or vulgarity which may have adverse effect on the viewers. The programmes of foreign satellite channels are uplinked from outside the country and therefore, do not fall within the ambit of Indian laws.

(b) and (c) Government propose to reintroduce the Broadcasting Bill in the Parliament, which, among other things, seeks to regulate the foreign satellite channels and bring them within the ambit of Indian laws and regulations including a broadcasting code which inter-alia would provide for promotion of Indian culture and prohibition of obscenity, etc.

Complaints regarding Unsatisfactory Functioning of Doordarshan Kendras

3019. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints regarding unsatisfactory functioning of some Doordarshan Kendras and interruption in their telecast;

(b) whether Government have been receiving complaints incessantly regarding unsatisfactory functioning of Rajkot Doordarshan Kendra and substandard telecast of programmes;

(c) whether the post of Property Assistant and other important posts have also been abolished at that Kendra; and

(d) whether any remedial measures have been taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No Sir.

(c) There is no sanctioned post of a Property Assistant at Rajkot.

(d) Further posts are not being created in this cetegory. However, vacant posts, if any, will be filled up with Senior Storekeepers.